

greyer. On the under surface, however, there is no resemblance to the Paraguay animal, the hairs being broadly washed with white, though they are, as usual, slaty at base. So really white-washed a belly is very unusual in the genus. Chin without any marked white patch. Hands and feet greyish white. Tail blackish above and all round at the end, the greater part below dull white.

Skull most like that of *A. simulator* and its allies. Large, evenly bowed; the interorbital region broad, with sharply angular edges. Palatal foramina well open, extending back to the level of the hinder edge of the first lamina of  $m^1$ . Incisors of normal set. Molars as usual.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 105 mm.; tail 78; hind foot 24; ear 20.

Skull: greatest length 29; zygomatic breadth 15; nasals 10; interorbital breadth 5; height of crown from alveolus of  $m^3$  8.2; palatilar length 12; palatal foramina 7; upper molar series 4.7.

*Hab.* Jesematathla, Northern Chaco. Alt. 100 m.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 20. 12. 18. 20. Original number 34. Collected 18th August, 1920.

This Akodon of the Paraguayan Chaco is above so like *A. a. montensis* of the country east of the River Paraguay as to be almost indistinguishable, but below it is at once separable by its broadly white-washed belly—a very unusual character in *Akodon*. Its skull is, on the whole, most like that of *A. simulator* and its allies of North Argentina west of the Chaco.

Considering how small the number of Chaco mammals is, the Marquis de Wavrin has done very well in discovering two new ones.

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XVIII.—*A new Mountain Vizcacha (Lagidium) from N.W. Patagonia.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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THE British Museum has received a number of mammals from Pilcañeu and other places in N.W. Patagonia collected by Mr. H. E. Box. As they were collected at very much the same places as those obtained by Sr. E. Budin in 1918, and described by me in a previous paper\*, the majority of them are known to science, but among them are several

\* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) iii. p. 199 (1919).

examples of a *Lagidium*, a form which Sr. Budin did not obtain in this region.

It proves to be distinct from *L. moreni*, the only North-Patagonian form as yet described, and may be called

*Lagidium boxi*, sp. n.

Greyish olive, the under surface slightly washed with yellowish. Feet dark.

Size about as in *L. moreni*. General colour above darker and more suffused with yellowish than in *moreni*, the colour not so clear a grey. Under surface also greyish olive, the hairs lightly washed with dull yellowish, markedly different from the strong yellow of *moreni*; but the genital area is more definitely yellow, forming a marked patch. Dorsal stripe more strongly developed than in *moreni*, running from nape to rump. White axillary patches present. Hands and feet comparatively dark—dark grizzled grey-brown, very different to the greyish white of *moreni*.

Skull, as compared with that of *moreni*, with shorter broader muzzle, the nasals more inflated. Premaxillary processes less surpassing the nasals behind. Suprameatal island on top of skull narrowly oblong, not so square. Anterior palatine fissure very small, half the length of that in *moreni*; palatine foramina shorter, their posterior end narrowed by sharp inturned edges. Molars stouter and heavier, a dimension taken at right angles to the line of the laminae definably greater; in  $p^4$  of the type, for instance, this dimension is 5.4 mm., while in the type of *moreni* it is 4.6.

Dimensions of the type (measured in flesh):—

Head and body 490 mm.; tail 320; hind foot 105; ear 68.

Skull: greatest length 91; condylo-incisive length 83.5; zygomatic breadth 48.5; nasals  $34 \times 13.5$ ; anterior palatine fissure 3.4; palatine foramina 15; upper tooth-series (crowns) 21.

*Hab.* Pileafñeu, Upper Rio Negro, N.W. Patagonia. Type from 1200 m.

*Type.* Adult female. B.M. no. 20.11.4.95. Original number 200. Collected 9th April, 1920, by H. E. Box. Presented by Oldfield Thomas. Two specimens obtained by Mr. Box, and an additional skin and three skulls presented by Mr. Guy H. Dawson of Pileafñeu.

To this species I refer not only the specimens now come, but one which was received in 1899 from the La Plata Museum, and was hitherto believed to be referable to *L. moreni*. The additional material, however, shows that the

two forms are different, and that the 1899 specimen belongs to *L. bovi*.

The exact locality of the type of *L. moreni* is unfortunately unknown, as "Chubut" is a province of considerable size, and there is no evidence as to where in it the specimen was obtained.

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XIX.—*A new Monkey and a new Squirrel from the Middle Mekong, on the Eastern Frontier of Siam.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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SPECIMENS of the two following very distinct mammals have been obtained during a privately organized expedition to the Laos country on the Franco-Siamese boundary, and I am now privileged to describe them.

*Pithecus laotum*, sp. n.

A black species with white face.

Fur soft and fine, that on shoulders elongated to form a mantle, its hairs some 100–110 mm. in length. Hairs of forehead all running backwards, without whorls, but those in front of and above the ears run inwards towards the centre of the occiput just behind the vertical crest; behind these, again, the hairs run evenly backwards down the nape and back. On the occiput a prominent high projecting black crest apparently very like that of *P. francoisi*, with hairs 40–50 mm. in length, points upwards and forwards at right angles to the smooth-lying frontal hairs among which it stands.

Colour of the whole animal, with the exception of the head-marks, deep glossy black, the back, whole of under surface, limbs, and tail all uniformly black. Head with a narrow superciliary line and a few scattered hairs on the cheeks black. Then the whole of the forehead and top of the head to halfway down the neck white, divided abruptly in the centre by the deep black of the occipital crest and a line succeeding it down the nape to the back. Area round and including ears, cheeks, and a line round below the chin also white.

Skull apparently of normal build, the nasals short, neither specially flattened or convex; nasal opening about half as broad as high. Canines very large and heavy.